MEETING NOTES MANCHESTER WATERWAY BENEFIT UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE October 3, 2012 – Regular Meeting

10:00 a.m. Public Works Conference Room

Attendees: Grace Amodeo, Dennis Peck, and Patrick Randall

Absent: Cliff McMahon (excused), Donald Fredrick (unexcused), and James Goulette (excused)

County: Dawn Harrison, Chuck Mopps, and Sandy Wright

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes: The minutes from the July 12, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

- There was discussion regarding spot dredging. Mr. Mopps explained that previously the County piggy backed off of the Punta Gorda contract for maintenance dredging. The maintenance contract only covers to the mouth of the estuary. The area beyond the S Curve at markers 16 and 17 is the worst spot and would require a permit. Mr. Mopps recommends that the Committee approve the funding to initiate a new project to address the spots identified on the map provided by Mr. Randall. A full project will require hiring an engineering firm, a bathymetric survey and application for a permit. The process will likely take until mid-November. Mr. Randall will ask the Community again at the Community meeting scheduled for next Tuesday to identify any spots that may need to be added to the map before proceeding. A citizen has reported a spot in the Como Waterway. Mr. Randall will provide Mr. Mopps with any additional data. Ms. Amodeo made a motion to approve the funding for the Engineering Department to start the process to get a survey and permit for spot dredging. The motion was seconded by Mr. Randall and passed unanimously. Mr. Mopps will wait until after next week's Community meeting to be sure there are no additions to the map.
- The Committee requested a marker be installed inside the "s" curve to keep boaters out of the shallow area and prevent silt from flowing into the channel. MAC is funding the installation of the markers. There was discussion regarding the installation of boating facilities in the park at the end of Midway. Mr. Randall will bring the topic up at the Community meeting Tuesday to see how the citizens feel.
- Ms. Harrison explained the two year budget process. Fiscal year 2013/2014 will be the beginning of a new two year cycle. The Committee must plan carefully since changes will only be allowed for emergency situations. The Committee agreed that the current budget should be rolled over for the next two years with \$150,000 being set aside for dredging. There was discussion regarding a rate decrease after the Lock Removal Loan is paid off. It is more difficult to increase a rate than it is to decrease the rate.
- There was discussion regarding advertising and the fees for advertising. The MSBU meetings are advertised on the County Web site and CCTV free of charge. The newspaper only advertises the MSBU meetings free of charge if there is room available. The County will not pay for this service. Ms. Harrison checked on posting notices on the bulletin board located across from the security desk at the entrance of the Administration Building. This would entail an employee to put notices up and take them down as well as make any changes; this is not feasible.
- There was discussion regarding vegetation removal from the County-owned property at the end of Midway Blvd. This will be followed up with M&O. Public Works is currently working on securing a contracted Project Manager to work on MSBU projects.

The next meeting will be determined after the draft budgets are ready to distribute to the Committees.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Submitted by:

Sandy Wright - Public Works Department